A student’s right to confidentiality and privacy

* Confidentiality means that school counselors won’t share what you tell us with others ***except*** when the student authorizes it or when there is a clear and present danger to the student and/or to other persons.
  + This means confidentiality must be ‘broken’ if you were going to cause harm:
    - To yourself
    - To others
    - Or were in a situation deemed to be unsafe for yourself or others.
  + This includes things that you may not say to us directly- for example, an expression of concerning feelings or thoughts in an English paper/journal written in class.
* Mandated reporters – School counselors must also, by law, report any case of abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities. School counselors inform parents/guardians or appropriate authorities when a student’s condition indicates a clear and imminent danger to the student or others.
* When confidentiality must be breached, school counselors can:
  + Inform the student of actions that need to be taken
  + Involve the student in a three-way communication with their parents/guardians
  + Allow the student to have input as to how and to whom the breach will be made